

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 21 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Having thus identified a set of semantic categories that human observers reliably use to organize images, such as photographic images, in accordance with an aspect of this invention, a next step models these categories so that they can be used operationally in an image retrieval or browsing application. Unlike conventional approaches that use low-level visual primitives (such as color, color layout, texture and shape) to represent information about semantic meaning, the method of this invention was ~~foeuses~~focused instead on the higher-level descriptors provided by the human observers. The descriptions that the observers provided for each category were examined with the following question in mind: Is it possible to find a set of low-level features and their organization capable of capturing semantics of the particular category?